

REPORT CITING JOSEPH P. KAMP

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON LOBBYING
ACTIVITIES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIRST CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

CREATED PURSUANT TO

H. Res. 298



AUGUST 31, 1950.—Ordered to be printed

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PROCEEDINGS AGAINST JOSEPH P. KAMP

AUGUST 31, 1950.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. BUCHANAN, of Pennsylvania, from the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities, submitted the following

R E P O R T CITING JOSEPH P. KAMP

The Select Committee on Lobbying Activities, created by the House of Representatives under House Resolution No. 298 of the Eighty-first Congress, was authorized and directed to conduct a study and investigation of—

(1) all lobbying activities intended to influence, encourage, promote, or retard legislation; and (2) all activities of the agencies of the Federal Government intended to influence, encourage, promote, or retard legislation.

The Constitutional Educational League, Inc., is a corporation organized in New York with offices at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City, N. Y. Joseph P. Kamp is the executive vice chairman.

The Select Committee on Lobbying Activities obtained information indicating that this organization was engaged in lobbying activities, including the mass distribution of pamphlets and literature, intended to influence the passage or defeat of Federal legislation directly and indirectly.

The chairman of the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities, on May 25, 1950, issued and caused to be served a subpoena duces tecum on said Joseph P. Kamp directing him to be and appear before the said Select Committee on Lobbying Activities on June 6, 1950 at 10 a. m.

The subpoena duces tecum served upon Joseph P. Kamp is set forth in words and figures below:

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

To Benedict F. Fitzgerald:

You are hereby commanded to summon Joseph P. Kamp, Constitutional Educational League, 342 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y., to be and appear before the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities of the House of Representatives of the United States, of which the Honorable Frank Buchanan is chairman, and to bring with him such of the records of said League as indicate: (1) the name

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and address of each person¹ from whom a total of \$1,000 or more has been received by the League during the period, January 1, 1947, to May 1, 1950, for any purpose including, but not limited to: (a) receipts from the sale of books, pamphlets, and other literature, (b) contributions, (c) loans; (2) as to each such person¹ the amount, date, and purpose of each payment which formed a part of the total of \$1,000 or more in their chamber in the city of Washington, on Tuesday, June 6, 1950, Room 362, Old House Office Building, at the hour of 10 a. m., then and there to testify touching matters of inquiry committed to said committee; and he is not to depart without leave of said committee.

Herein fail not, and make return of this summons.

Witness my hand and the seal of the House of Representatives of the United States, at the city of Washington, this 25th day of May 1950.

FRANK BUCHANAN, *Chairman.*

Attest:

[SEAL]

RALPH A. ROBERTS, *Clerk.*

The said subpoena duces tecum was served on Joseph P. Kamp by Benedict F. FitzGerald, Jr., counsel for the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities. The return of the service of the subpoena, endorsed thereon, is set forth in words and figures as follows:

SUBPENA FOR JOSEPH P. KAMP

Served on Joseph P. Kamp at the office of the Constitutional Educational League, 342 Madison Avenue, New York City, on Saturday, May 27, 1950, at about 2:30 p. m. by delivery in hand to the said Joseph H. Kamp, by the undersigned.

BENEDICT F. FITZGERALD, JR.,
Counsel, House Select Committee on Lobbying Activities.

Pursuant to said subpoena, Joseph P. Kamp appeared before the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities on June 6, 1950, but failed and refused to produce certain records called for in the subpoena duces tecum, and as a result of such refusal the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities was deprived from receiving information concerning a matter committed to said committee. The record of the proceedings before the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities held on Tuesday June 6, 1950, during which the said Joseph P. Kamp refused to furnish certain material pertinent to the subject under inquiry, is set forth in part as follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON LOBBYING ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D. C., Tuesday, June 6, 1950.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:40 a. m., in the caucus room, Old House Office Building, Hon. Frank Buchanan (chairman) presiding.

Present: Representatives Buchanan (chairman), Lanham, Albert, Brown, and O'Hara.

Also present: Benedict F. FitzGerald, Jr., committee counsel.

* * * * *

The CHAIRMAN. The next witness, Mr. Joseph P. Kamp.

Will the witness be sworn.

Raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear that the statements you make before this committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God, to the last great day?

Mr. KAMP. I do.

TESTIMONY OF JOSEPH P. KAMP

The CHAIRMAN. Give your name and address, please.

Mr. KAMP. My name is Joseph P. Kamp; my office address is 342 Madison Avenue, New York City; and my home is at 3 East Fifty-fourth Street, New York City.

The CHAIRMAN. What is your official connection with the Constitutional Educational League?

¹ Includes any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or other organization or group.

Mr. KAMP. I am executive vice chairman of the Constitutional Educational League.

The CHAIRMAN. And their offices are located where?

Mr. KAMP. 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you or your organization registered under the Lobbying Act?

Mr. KAMP. We are not.

The CHAIRMAN. A subpoena was issued on the 25th day of May 1950, by authority of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America commanding Benedict F. FitzGerald to summon you to be and appear before the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities of the House of Representatives of which I, Representative Frank Buchanan, am chairman, and to bring with you such of the records of the Constitutional Educational League as indicate: (a) The name and address of each person from whom a total of \$1,000 or more has been received by the league during the period, January 1, 1947, to May 1, 1950, for any purpose, including, but not limited to (A) receipts from the sale of books, pamphlets and other literature, (B) contributions, (C) loans; (b) as to each such person the amount, date and purpose of each payment which formed a part of the total of \$1,000 or more.

You were to produce these records before this committee in the city of Washington on Tuesday, June 6, 1950, at room 362, Old House Office Building at 10 a. m., where and when you were to testify touching matters of inquiry committed to this committee. Is that not a fact as stated in the subpoena?

Mr. KAMP. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you care to examine a copy of the subpoena to see if it is the same subpoena which has been served upon you?

(A copy of the document was handed to the witness.)

The CHAIRMAN. You were given this subpoena by Benedict F. FitzGerald on the 26th of May 1950, at 11:30 a. m.; that is so, is it not--and is that a correct copy?

Mr. KAMP. It appears to me to be a correct copy; a carbon copy, probably.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you have your subpoena with you?

Mr. KAMP. I do.

The CHAIRMAN. You are now before the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities at the time and place stated in the subpoena; that is so, is it not?

Mr. KAMP. I am.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you bring with you the records of the Constitutional Educational League?

Mr. KAMP. No, sir; I did not. I haven't had time to do the job that the subpoena asked me to do; and, besides, I wanted the opportunity of presenting our position to this committee, our legal position.

The CHAIRMAN. You are here in response to the subpoena?

Mr. KAMP. That is right, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. But you do not have your records with you?

Mr. KAMP. That is right. I haven't had time to do anything like that. That is a job, that this calls for. Since I am not sure that the Constitutional Educational League comes under the authority of your committee, as set forth in your subpoena, I wanted to have an opportunity of presenting my position to you, so that I might be informed by this committee whether or not, in its judgment, we do come within your jurisdiction.

The CHAIRMAN. * * *

Just a moment. If you were to be given time, how much time would you think necessary to furnish the material?

Mr. KAMP. Well, before I could begin to do the job, I would like to have the committee's statement as to how and why we come under the committee's authority. That was my purpose in coming here today. I read in the newspapers the statement of the chairman of this committee that the purpose of this hearing was to give the people who had been subpoenaed an opportunity to tell this committee why we refuse to cooperate with the representatives of the committee who called at our offices. That was my purpose.

The CHAIRMAN. That is all.

* * * * *

Mr. LANHAM. You say you are here in response to the subpoena. Do you refuse to give to the committee now the information asked for by the committee?

Mr. KAMP. No, I don't refuse.

Mr. LANHAM. Do you have it with you?

Mr. KAMP. No.

Mr. LANHAM. Do you propose to give it to us at any time?

Mr. KAMP. I do propose to give it to you when and if this committee can establish its right.

Mr. LANHAM. The obligation isn't on this committee to establish any right. We are a part of the Government and given the right to investigate lobbying. We have a right to this information. You are here this morning, but refuse to give it to us.

Mr. KAMP. I say to you, that we are not engaged in lobbying; therefore, do not come under your committee's authority; and that we respect the Constitution of the United States, first.

Mr. LANHAM. Do you respect the subpoena that has been served upon you?

Mr. KAMP. Yes.

Mr. LANHAM. You mean to comply with it?

Mr. KAMP. First, I respect the subpoena. That is why I am here.

Mr. LANHAM. Do you intend to comply with the subpoena duces tecum to bring these records with you?

Mr. KAMP. When and if it is established by this committee that it has a legal right to the papers and the records which it requests.

Because of the foregoing the said Select Committee on Lobbying Activities was deprived of answers to pertinent questions to be propounded to the said Joseph P. Kamp relative to the subject matter which under House Resolution 298 of the Eighty-first Congress the said Select Committee on Lobbying Activities was directed to investigate, and the refusal of Joseph P. Kamp to furnish the information in response to the subpoena duces tecum herein above set forth, or in response to questions addressed to him under oath before a quorum of the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities during Joseph P. Kamp's voluntary appearance before said Committee on Lobbying Activities deprived the Select Committee on Lobbying Activities of necessary and pertinent information and places said witness Joseph P. Kamp in contempt of the House of Representatives of the United States.

